

## NOUNS

Nouns are the words in a sentence that name people, places, things, and ideas. Pronouns are words that can be substituted for nouns.

*A noun is a name that may consist of one or more words.*

***A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.***

My **dog, Penny**, always displays great **affection** for all the **people** who come into our **house**.

Nouns can be classified in several ways.

### Common and Proper Nouns

A **common noun** names any person, place, thing, or idea, but a **proper noun** names a particular person, place, thing, idea.

COMMON NOUN: worker, state, document

PROPER NOUN: Rob Warner, Michigan, Bill of Rights

NOTE: Some proper nouns, such as Bill of Rights, include more than one word. They are still considered noun. *Bill of Rights*, for example, is the name of *one* document.

### Concrete and Abstract Nouns

A **concrete noun** names an object that you can actually see, touch, taste, hear, or smell.

An **abstract noun** cannot be perceived through your senses because an abstract noun names a quality, a condition, or an idea.

CONCRETE NOUNS: hat, fur, children, bell, flowers, peppers

ABSTRACT NOUNS: love, anger, liberty, success, hope, ambition

### Compound and Collective Nouns

A **compound noun** is made up of more than one word. Compound nouns can be written in three different ways - check the dictionary for correct formation.

COMPOUND NOUNS: viewpoint, stagecoach, airstrip [one word]  
double-talk, brother-in-law [hyphenated]  
living room, missing link, Roy Smith [two words]

A **collective noun** names a **group** of people or things.

COLLECTIVE NOUNS: committee, council, flock, group, family, herd, couple, pair

## The Noun

A *noun* is one of the eight parts of speech. It is word that names something. Some nouns name people, some name places, things and some name ideas. *Dr. Fitzgerald, Washington, D. C., and automobile*, for example, are all nouns.

**A noun is the name of a person, place, or thing.**

Nouns name both living and nonliving things. Some nouns name what can be seen, such as *elephant*. Others name ideas, such as *strength*.

The nouns in the following chart are grouped under the headings People, Places, Things and Ideas.

<u>People</u>	<u>Places</u>	<u>Things</u>	<u>Ideas</u>
writer	Ohio	movie	love
Mrs. Fisher	theater	ball	fear
Ann	ocean	guitar	hunger
sailor	Rocky Mountains	flower	freedom

The nouns in the following sentences are underlined.

Keith lives nearby. We vacationed in Canada. Her laughter was loud

Almost every time you speak, you talk about people, places, or things. When you talk about them, you are using nouns.

**EXERCISE A: Identifying Nouns.** List the nouns in each sentence. Underline it, if it is the subject of the sentence.

EXAMPLE: My favorite author is James Ullman. author James Ullman

1. James Ullman wrote many books and stories. James Ullman books stories

2. Ullman was born in America but also lived in the mountains of Tibet.

3. This experienced adventurer loved to climb mountains.

4. Ullman joined an expedition to climb Mount Everest.

5. The climb is described in a novel.

6. Another story by Ullman unfolds in the Amazon

7. People enjoy the adventures described in his books.

8. Readers admire his knowledge and his daring.

9. Ullman traveled throughout the world as a reporter.

10. This famous man was a traveler, a writer, and a fascinating person.

**EXERCISE B: Find more nouns.** Follow directions for Exercise A

1. The proper ingredients for making bread are flour, water, milk, butter, and yeast.

2. First, dissolve the yeast in warm water.

3. Add sugar and flour and let the mixture rise in a bowl.

4. Add warm milk and more flour and knead the dough on a wooden board.

5. Again, let the dough rise, punch it down, shape it, and bake each loaf for thirty minutes.